

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:637
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
RENOVATION OF KHAJURAHO TEMPLE
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of tourists including foreigners visited Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh during each of the last three years;
- (b) whether Government is aware of poor upkeep and encroachments by and around the Khajuraho Temple;
- (c) if so, whether the Government has prepared any plan to renovate the Khajuraho temple and prevent encroachment and theft of priceless sculptures in this temple; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE (SHRIS. JAIPAL REDDY)

- (a) The total number of domestic and foreign tourists who visited Khajuraho during the last 03 years is as under:

2002-03	1,26,004
2003-04	1,70,720
2004-05	2,18,905

(b) The monuments at Khajuraho are being conserved, preserved and maintained well. The maintenance of a monument is a continuous process and necessary works are being taken up. No encroachment has been reported in the protected area of Khajuraho Group of Temples. However, some cases of illegal / unauthorized construction have been reported in the vicinity for which the necessary action under the provisions of Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958 and Rules, 1959 has been initiated for removal of such unauthorized constructions.

(c)&(d) Yes, Sir. Plans have been formulated to maintain the monuments and landscape the surroundings. The protected and the newly acquired area by the Archaeological Survey of India would be fenced to ensure security to the temple and its priceless sculptures.

In order to acquire land around the protected monument, a sum of Rs.3,21,79,037/- has been deposited with District Collector, Chhattarpur towards compensation, and the process of payment to the affected persons is under way.